

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

Isn't the whole point of the broadcast flag designed to limit out ability to record content? If so then it will most certainly interfere with my ability to make copies of DTV content for personal use. If I wish to make a copy for personal use then I should be able to. It is my, and others like me, support that enables the content to exist to begin with. If I didn't spend the money then it would not exist, thus limiting my ability to record DTV content will eventually lead to my not wanting to bother with DTV at all. How is this helpfull to any party?

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Of course this flag would interfere with the ability to send content across networks. If your network isn't using the protocol needed to see the flag then it will not work. If this isn't the case then what is the point of the flag? By the very nature of the flag's goal it WILL interfere.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

Again the flag would limit the use of older components, as stated before if the flag did not do this how would it achieve its goal? If older devices will still work then why get a device that supported the flag, especially if you don't want the flag to begin with? Thus, in order to make sure the goals of the flag are reached, the nature of the flag will make it to where older devices will not work properly.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

I believe it would, being unable to see into the future could place a nice cap on new technologies that could come out. This would prove damaging to all parties involved and for what, a limit on personal use of DTV content? Is it really worth it?

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

If older components do not work with the flag then that means buying alot of new expensive devices, which I most certainly would NOT do. Also, there is a chance that newer models of digital devices will have to be outfitted with more expensive chips to see the flag, assembly lines will have to be altered to include these new steps, and a possible increase in labor as well making the overall price of the exact same thing we have now increase so that we can limit ourselves. I don't see the point in the paying more money for a limit.

Other Comments:

I believe if you make DTV harder to use and more expensive then it will lose its value. I would have no problem simply not using DTV if these things came to pass, and who wins then? Nobody.